

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: April 25-26, 2007

Reference No.: 2.3b.(1)
Action Item

From: CINDY McKIM
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Mark Leja
Chief
Division of Design

Subject: **NEW PUBLIC ROAD CONNECTION, 8-RIV-60 PM 7.5**
RESOLUTION S-732

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the attached Resolution S-732 and map authorizing a new public road connection at Valley Way to State Route (SR) 60 in the county of Riverside.

ISSUE:

The County of Riverside has requested approval of a new public road connection to SR 60. Pursuant to Section 100.2 of the Streets and Highways Code, no local road shall be connected with any freeway until the Commission adopts a resolution consenting thereto. It is recommended that the Commission approve the resolution in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Engineer. The resolution grants approval of a new public road connection as an interchange to SR 60 in the county of Riverside, at Post Mile 7.5.

Recommended by: _____
RICHARD D. LAND
Chief Engineer

BACKGROUND:

Due to increasing traffic volumes on SR 60 and congestion at the Valley Way interchange, the County of Riverside has pursued project alternatives to improve the operation of this interchange. This project will revise the connection to SR 60 at Valley Way. On December 5, 2006, the County of Riverside approved a freeway agreement with the Department for this segment of SR 60.

Route 60 begins at Route 10 near the Los Angeles River in the city of Los Angeles, and runs east to Route 215 in Riverside via Pomona. Then continues east from Route 215 near Moreno Valley to Route 10 near Beaumont. It is part of the National Highway System, Highways of National Network System for Federal Surface Transportation Assistance Act, and the Truck Networks on California State Highways. The Commission adopted the portion of SR 60 in the vicinity of Valley Way as a freeway on November 28, 1941. SR 60 is a major regional freeway that provides for east-west travel movements in Riverside, San Bernardino, and Los Angeles Counties. The existing route is a six-lane facility west of the Valley Way interchange and an eight-lane facility east of the Valley Way interchange. Future widening to ten lanes is planned west of the Valley Way interchange to accommodate high occupancy vehicle lanes. In August 1992, a Project Study Report (PSR) was approved to modify the existing Valley Way interchange. The Project Report was approved on July 12, 2005.

SR 60, including the Valley Way interchange, was constructed to freeway standards in 1962. The continuing urbanization of Riverside County has placed more demand on the Valley Way ramps to and from SR 60. This project will remove the existing eastbound diamond exit ramp at Valley Way and construct a new eastbound exit hook ramp one-half mile west of Valley Way connecting to the Mission Boulevard/Byrne Road intersection. A new eastbound entrance hook ramp will be constructed adjacent to the new eastbound exit hook ramp. The existing eastbound diamond entrance ramp at Valley Way will remain in operation. The revised interchange at Valley Way will be an elongated interchange. The proposed improvements will increase the capacity of the existing interchange and considerably improve interchange operations. In order to execute this project, Commission approval is required for the revised public road connection to SR 60.

The Riverside County Transportation Department (RCTD) is funding this project with local and federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) funds, as summarized in the following table:

<u>Source</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Federal	CMAQ	\$2,700,000
RCTD	Local	<u>\$1,500,000</u>
Project Total		\$4,200,000

The County of Riverside and the local community support this project. A public information meeting was held on May 9, 2002, and no organized group or individual has demonstrated any opposition towards the proposed improvements to the Valley Way interchange.

Advisory and Mandatory Design Exceptions were approved in February 2004. Supplemental Advisory Design Exceptions were approved on June 21, 2006.

The Department approved the Project Report on July 12, 2005. This project is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The County of Riverside and the Department's environmental staff reviewed the proposed improvements for potential impacts on the environment. It was found that the proposed project would not have a significant impact on the environment. The project is Categorical Exempt (CE) under Class 1 of the State CEQA guidelines. The project is Categorical Excluded (CE) under NEPA.

A revised Freeway Agreement was signed by the County of Riverside on December 5, 2006, and will be executed by the Department after Commission approval of the new connection.

Attachments

Resolution S-732

Vicinity Map

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Resolution Authorizing a New Public Road Connection
8-RIV-60 PM 7.5

Resolution S-732

WHEREAS, the County of Riverside has requested approval of a new public road connection on State Route 60 for Valley Way; and

WHEREAS, a Categorical Exemption/Categorical Exclusion has been approved in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Policy Act; and

WHEREAS, the project will not have a significant impact on the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the California Transportation Commission that pursuant to the authority vested in it by law, this Commission does hereby authorize one new public road connection on State Route 60 at Valley Way, PM 7.5, in the county of Riverside.

Vicinity Map
08-RIV-60
PM 7.5
New Connection at Valley Way

